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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
Alastair Buckley) Examiner:
Application No.:) Group Art Unit:
Corresponding International Filing No.:)
PCT/GB2003/004247)
Filed: Herewith)
For: PASSIVATION LAYER) March 22, 2005

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page two of this paper.

Remarks begin on page four of this paper.